

CONTENTS

Acknowledgments ix

Introduction: Desire and Death in Elite
Medieval Emotional Communities 1

1. *Philomena* and the Erotics of Privilege
in the Middle Ages 24
2. Widows and the Romance of Grief 59
3. Masculinity, Mourning, and
Epic Sacrifice 90
4. Toward a Mediterranean Erotics
of Grief 119

Conclusion: The Erotics of Grief
and the Stakes of Community 156

*Appendix 1: Selected Illuminations
of Knights Being Grieved 165*

*Appendix 2: Selected Illuminations
of Lovers in Death 167*

Bibliography 169

Index 185